Promotion of backwater tourism in Goa

3006 SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether backwater tourism in Goa has been conceptualised either by the Central Government or by the Goa authorities;

(b) whether the Central Government have made study in this regard on identified backwaters;

(c) whether the State Government has approached the Central Government in this regard;

(d) whether Central Government has any special scheme in this regard to assist financially and technically the State Governments; and

(e) if so. the details thereof

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) Backwater tcunsm through boat trips, cruises, house boats are being provided by private operates and Goa Tourism Development Corporation along the banks of Mandovi and Zuan rivers and Islands of Divar, Chorao, etc

(b) and (c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) The Central Government assists the State Governments in development and promotion of tourism including projects for Eco-tourism and backwaters under the following schemes:

(1) Development of Tourism Circuits

(2) Product Infrastructure and Destination Development

(3) Large Revenue Generating Projects

(4) Fairs and Festivals

Guidelines for adventure tourism

3007. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has issued guidelines on the basic minimum standards for adventure tourism in the country for equipment, organisers and tourists;